DEPARTMENT OF STATE

# Memorandum of Conversation

TELEPHONE

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE: July 2, 1954
7 p.m.

SUBJECT: Guatemalan Situation
Inter-American Peace Committee

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. William L. Krieg, Counselor of Embassy, Guatemala
Assistant Secretary Henry F. Holland

COPIES TO: The Secretary
General Smith
Mr. Murphy

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Mr. Krieg told Mr. Holland that immediately after speaking to him earlier he had gone out to the airport to talk with the two members of the Junta who were still waiting. Both gave the most categorical assurances that no troop movements of any kind are under way. They said that the new Chief of Staff had been sent to the front to draw back units of troops which will be brought back to go with Castillo Armas' men for the great parade he is anxious to have. Special trains from Zacapa are to bring troops of both sides up. Mr. Holland suggested that some precaution be taken that through some misunderstanding troops are not moving forward. Mr. Krieg will ask that the Junta issue confirming or additional orders that there be no offensive and no firing except in the last ditch of self-defense. He is sure they will do it.

Mr. Holland referred to his conversation with Amb. Daniels in Mexico City in which he said that the other four members of the Inter-American Peace Committee are determined to return to Washington. They would like to have some plausible ground for doing so. They would therefore be grateful if the three countries to which they were going would cable them that they withdraw all complaints filed with the Peace Committee or with the United Nations Security Council and congratulate the Peace Committee on the fact that their presence in Mexico undoubtedly contributed to the successful solution in El Salvador and suggesting that for the time being the investigation be called off since no need exists now for the trip. Mr. Holland said the message should mention the IAPC and that cable should be sent to Luis Quintanilla, Chairman of the IAPC, and should be confirmed through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Mexico. He said that when the Committee receives such

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such cable it will come home. When Mr. Krieg said he did not think the Guatemalans would go along on the portion that their presence in Mexico contributed to the successful solution in San Salvador, Mr. Holland said it would not be necessary to include it; Mr. Krieg should put it that all complaints are withdrawn and that there is no need for their coming. Mr. Holland asked Mr. Krieg to try to get the message out tonight so that the Committee could go home tomorrow morning. Mr. Krieg said he would do his best.

MK:vk